

Summary of Simple Past and Past Continuous

Simple Past	Past Continuous
<p>RULE 1:</p> <p>Past action at specific time (e.g. ago, yesterday, last...)</p> <p><i>Example:</i> I saw Ahmed yesterday.</p>	<p>The LONG action of 2 actions (1 long, 1 short)</p> <p><i>Example:</i> When I came back to my home, my housemate was cleaning the floor.</p>
<p>RULE 2:</p> <p>A few actions happened one after another</p> <p><i>Example:</i> I ate unhealthy food. I felt sick. I went to the hospital. The doctor gave me some medicine. I ate the medicine. I felt better.</p>	<p>RULE 2:</p> <p>2 actions happening AT THE SAME TIME (while)</p> <p><i>Example:</i> I was thinking about my exam while I was walking home.</p> <p>*use 'while' to show long actions and 2 actions happening at the same time</p>
<p>RULE 3:</p> <p>The SHORT action of 2 actions (1 short, 1 long)</p> <p><i>Example:</i> 1. While I was driving, I saw an accident.</p> <p>2. When I saw the accident, I was driving.</p> <p>* use simple past after 'when'</p>	<p>RULE 3:</p> <p>Some verbs cannot have -ing</p> <p><i>Example:</i> hear, see, smell, taste, forgive, like, love, hate, need, prefer, want, believe, forget, know, remember, seem, think (believe), understand, belong to, have (own), own, possess</p>